

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 052130Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8889

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 4196

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, OVIP, US/CI

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S CALL ON PRESIDENT

PINOCHET - HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: SANTIAGO 4148

1. PER REFTTEL, EMBASSY PROVIDES FOLLOWUNG MATERIAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION FOR USE IN SECRETARY'S TRIP TO CHILE MAY 7.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS:

OBJECTIVE: TO ENSURE THAT THE GOC GESTURE TO SECRETARY SIMON OF REELEASING ABOUT 50 PERSONS DETAINED UNDER THE STATE OF SIEGE OR CONDEMNED AS A RESULT OF TRIAL AND CONVICTION IS ONE STEP IN A CHAIN OF IMPROVEMENTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVATIONS. ON THE ONE HAND, THE USG SHOULD NOT MISLEAD GOC INTO THINKING THAT THIS GESTURE RESOLVES GOC HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WITH THE US OR THE REST OF THE WORLD. ON THE OTHER HAND THIS GESTURE SHOULD BE BUILT UP AS PART OF A PROCESS OF CONTINUING EVOLUTION.

SETTING: THE CHILEAN DECISION TO RELEASE INTO EXILE 50 PERSONS DETAINED OR IN PRISON FOR POLITICALLY RELATED REASONS SHOWS A WELCOME REGARD FOR INTERNATIONAL, PARTICULARLY US, CONCERN. INCLUSION OF THE FOUR DAWSON ISLAND VETERANS IS A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL DECISION. SUPREME DECREE 187 OF LATE JANUARY HAS HAD SOME EFFECT AS WELL ON THE BROADER PROBLEM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO HOLD UP TO 4,000 OTHER PEOPLE IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES--DOWN ONLY 15 PERCENT DURING THE LAST YEAR. STATE OF SIEGE RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONAL

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LIBERTIES (INCLUDING THE LACK OF HABEAS CORPUS) CONTINUE 30

MONTHS AFTER THE COUP IN THE ABSENCE OF SIGNIFICANT VIOLENT  
OPPOSITION. THE GOC TAKES HOSTAGES. PEOPLE STILL DISAPPEAR OR,  
IN ONE RECENT CASE, ARE FOUND DEAD IN UNEXPLAINED CIRCUMSTANCES.  
THE CENTRALIZED INTELLIGENCE SECURITY AGENCY, DINA, STILL  
OPERATES VIRTUALLY WITHOUT INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL. THUS, WHILE THE  
VOLUME AND INTENSITY OF ABUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS EBBED SINCE  
FEBRUARY, ENOUGH INCIDENTS ARISE TO UNDO MANY OF THE GAINS.

THE GOC SHOULD NOT CONCLUDE THAT THE UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT BELIEVES SUCH GESTURES AS THE RELEASE OF 50 PRISONERS,  
WHICH WE WELCOME FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS, SOLVES THE PROBLEM  
WHICH IS STRAINING OUR RELATIONS. THE MEDIA HAVE GIVEN PROMINENT  
PLAY TO ALLEGED SPLITS BETWEEN TREASURY AND STATE OVER THIS HUMAN  
RIGHTS ISSUE.

3. TALKING POINTS:

-- YOU ARE EXTREMELY PLEASE TO KNOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT  
OF CHILE IS RELEASING 50 PEOPLE TO THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS A  
DRAMATIC AND SIGNIFICANT EARNST OF GOC INTENTION.

-- AS THE GOC KNOWS, THE USG HAS ACCEPTED FOR PAROLE  
A NUMBER OF OTHER STATE OF SIEGE DETAINEES. WE HOPE THAT IT  
WILL BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE SOMETHING WITH REGARD TO THEM AS  
WELL.

-- THE ADMINISTRATION RECOGNIZES THAT CHILE HAS BEEN UNFAIRLY  
CASTIGATED IN MANY RESPECTS, BUT NOT ALL CRITICS IN THE US  
ARE "COMMUNIST DUPES" OR POWER-CRAZED POLITICIANS. SO LONG  
AS EVIDENCE OF ABUSES CROPS UP, PUBLIC OPINION, PARTICULARLY  
MANIFESTED IN THE CONGRESS, WILL LIMIT THE ADMINISTRATION'S  
ABILITY TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOC, AS HAS ALREADY HAPPENED.

-- YOU FEAR THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO  
DETERIORATE TO THE DETRIMENT OF BOTH COUNTRIES' INTERESTS  
UNTIL AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION--AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE ADMINISTRATION--CAN BE CONVINCED OF GOC GOOD FAITH. WE DOUBT THAT WILL  
BE OBTAINED SO LONG AS GUARANTEES OF THE PERSON ARE NON-EXISTENT  
OR NOT FULLY RESPECTED. AS A FRIEND OF CHILE, YOU HOPE THAT  
PRESIDENT PINOCHET (AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN HUMAN RIGHTS)  
APPRECIATES THAT SPECIFIC MEASURES IN THESE TWO AREAS ARE STILL  
NEEDED AS A BASIS FOR FACILITATING OUR TRADITIONALLY CLOSE TIES.

-- AS SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, YOU HAVE A SPECIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WORLD BANK AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. REACTION AGAINST PRESENT CHILEAN  
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POLICIES IN THE MEDIA AND CONGRESS MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE  
USG TO KEEP POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS OUT OF WORLD BANK DECISIONS,  
AND INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO ENSURE THAT CHILE RECEIVES  
ASSISTANCE CONSISTENT WITH ITS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND ESTABLISHED  
CREDIT WORTHINESS.

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